

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 03124 040912Z

22

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SMI-01 OES-05 USIA-15 /031 W

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P 040826Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2704

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA PRIORITY

UNCLAS MANILA 3124

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: OTRA, THEN, DR. TYSON ROBERTS

SUBJECT: TRAVEL OF SMITHSONIAN MARINE BIOLOGIST, TYSON
ROBERTS TO INDONESIA & PHILIPPINES

1. DR. TYSON ROBERTS WHO IDENTIFIES SELF AS SMITHSONIAN MARINE BIOLOGIST, VISITED EMBASSY MARCH 1 AND ASKED ADVICE REGARDING TRIP TO LAKE LANA O (MINDANAO) WHERE HE INTENDS TO CONDUCT FISH RESEARCH BEGINNING SOMETIME IN NEXT FEW WEEKS. ROBERTS ALSO ASKED ADVICE REGARDING SUBSEQUENT TRIP TO WEST KALIMANTAN (INDONESIA) WHERE HE HAS SIMILAR PLANS FOR COLLECTION AND RESEARCH IN UPPER KAPUAS RIVER. DR. ROBERTS SAID HE HAD NOT CONTACTED STATE DEPARTMENT ABOUT EITHER PORTION OF HIS TRAVEL.

2. REGARDING LAKE LANA O, EMBOFF POINTED OUT EXTREMELY DISTURBED CONDITIONS, POTENTIAL KIDNAPPING HAZARD, AND FACT THAT USG PERSONNEL ROUTINELY BARRED FROM TRAVEL TO AREA. DR. ROBERTS MADE NO COMMITMENT BUT AGREED TO THINK MATTER OVER AND CHECK AGAIN WITH EMBASSY BEFORE LEAVING MANILA.

3. REGARDING INDONESIA, EMBOFF ADVISED HIM TO CONTACT INDONESIAN EMBASSY TO OBTAIN PROPER RESEARCH VISA INCLUDING NATIONAL SCIENCE INSTITUTE (LIPI) AUTHORIZATIONS, ETC. HE HAD BEEN CONSIDERING GOING DIRECT FROM PHILIPPINES TO PONTIANAK VIA KUCHING ON TOURIST VISA. ROBERTS INFORMED US
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MARCH 3 HE IS FOLLOWING EMBASSY ADVICE AND AT HIS

REQUEST USIS MANILA IS FORWARDING COPIES OF HIS
INDONESIAN RESEARCH VISA APPLICATION TO CAO JAKARTA.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: ASSUMING HE IS
SMITHSONIAN STAFF AND USG EMPLOYEE, EMBASSY INTENDS
TO TELL ROBERTS THAT HIS LANA O TRIP IS DEFINITELY
NOT RPT NOT PERMISSIBLE. WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF
DESK WOULD CHECK WITH SMITHSONIAN AND CONFIRM HIS
STATUS. ALSO REQUEST DESK REITERATE TO SMITHSONIAN
AND ANY OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES THAT MIGHT
SPONSOR RESEARCH ABROAD THAT ALL SUCH FOREIGN
RESEARCH PROPOSALS SHOULD BE ROUTINELY CLEARED WITH A) DEPARTMENT
OF STATE, AND B) AS MAY BE NECESSARY, WITH APPROPRIATE EMBASSIES.

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